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Secretariat

19 May 2003

Information circular*

To: Members of the staff

From: The Under-Secretary-General for Management

Subject: **Hourly wage for household employees on G-5 visas**

1. The purpose of the present circular is to inform staff members who hold a G-4 visa and employ a household employee to whom a G-5 visa has been granted of a communication received from the United States Mission to the United Nations regarding the increase in hourly wage to be paid to such household employees.

2. The United States Mission recalled that, for all hours worked, personal servants, attendants and domestic workers who are in the United States in G-5 visa status must be paid for all hours worked the greater of the minimum wage under federal or state law or the prevailing wage in the location where they are employed.

3. According to the United States Department of Labor's 2003 Wage Determination for Domestic Employees, the prevailing hourly wage for "maids and housekeeping cleaners" has been raised to $9.38 for the New York City metropolitan area and to $6.72 for the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. As these amounts exceed the federal minimum wage, **effective 15 April 2003**, all domestic employees on G-5 visas should be paid an hourly wage of $9.38 in the New York City metropolitan area, and an hourly wage of $6.72 in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area (for United Nations Information Centre, Washington, D.C.).

4. All new contracts between domestic workers and their employers should reflect the increased amounts.

* The present information circular will be in effect until further notice.

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